

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 006725

46

ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W-DVKILLION/JANDEREGG

APPROVED BY AF-WESCHAUFEE

AF/W-JKBISHOP (DRAFT)

EA/ARN-TJCAROLAN (INFO)

PM/SAS-RSMITH (DRAFT)

C-JWALSH (INFO)

L/PM-JMICHEL (DRAFT)

S/S- MR. WOODS

----- 049964

O R 101755Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY RABAT

S E C R E T STATE 006725

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, SS, MR, AG, MO

SUBJECT: SAHARA WATCH: MAURITANIAN REQUEST FOR ARMS

REF: A) NOUAKCHOTT 34; B) STATE 4247

1. REF B STATED THAT MAURITANIA IS TECHNICALLY ELIGIBLE FOR FMS PROGRAMS. THIS WAS INTENDED TO MEAN THAT THE SECRETARY MAY DETERMINE THAT TRANSFER TO MAURITANIA OF DEFENSE ARTICLES OF USG ORIGIN BY A THIRD COUNTRY WHICH HAS PURCHASED SUCH ARTICLES UNDER FOREIGN MILITARY SALES ACT WILL STRENGTHEN SECURITY OF US AND PROMOTE WORLD PEACE.

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AT PRESENT MAURITANIA IS NOT RPT NOT ELIGIBLE FOR DIRECT

PURCHASES UNDER FMS ACT, AND SUCH ELIGIBILITY CAN BE OBTAINED ONLY IF THE PRESIDENT DETERMINES THAT SALES TO MAURITANIA WOULD "STRENGTHEN THE SECURITY OF THE UNITED STATES AND PROMOTE WORLD PEACE."

2. ACTING MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS ABDALLAH'S JAN. 7 APPROACH TO YOU (REF A) REQUESTING US ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING US-MADE HEAVY MACHINE GUNS AND AMMUNITION IS PRESENTLY BEING REVIEWED AT SENIOR LEVELS OF THE DEPARTMENT. OUR RESPONSE WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO YOU AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

3. AS REGARDS COMMERCIAL PURCHASES, FURTHER INQUIRY INDICATES THAT THERE PROBABLY ARE NOT AS MANY AS 200 50 CALIBER MACHINE GUNS PRESENTLY AVAILABLE IN U.S. COMMERCIAL MARKETS. KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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